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E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [ECON](#) [EFIN](#) [BU](#)  
SUBJECT: BULGARIAN PARLIAMENT RATIFIES BILATERAL DOUBLE  
TAXATION TREATY

[1](#)1. Please see guidance request in Para 4.

[1](#)2. On July 12, 2007, the Bulgarian Parliament voted to approve legislation ratifying the U.S.-Bulgaria Double Taxation Treaty. Ministry of Finance official Iskra Slavcheva informed econoff that the legislation will be published in Bulgaria's Official Gazette within the next 7 to 10 days, and three days after publication, the law will go into effect. Ms Slavcheva explained that the Treaty will go into force when both parties provide formal notification (exchange diplomatic notes) advising that national procedures to ratify the Treaty have been completed.

[1](#)3. Embassy understands that U.S. Treasury Department is preparing revisions to the Treaty text. Ms. Slavcheva advised that purely "technical" revisions could be addressed through an exchange of notes, but "substantive" revisions would require a protocol to the Treaty that would require parliamentary approval. Once proposed revisions are received from the U.S. Government, they would be translated and put out for comment by Bulgarian government agencies. The package would then be transmitted to the Council of Ministers for approval and transmission to the Parliament, where the Finance, Budget and Foreign Policy Committees would review and approve before sending to a plenary session for vote.

[1](#)4. Guidance request: Bulgarian ratification of the Treaty has been reported by the press. Embassy requests an update on the status of U.S. proposed revisions as well as Department guidance for press inquiries on the status of the U.S. ratification process.  
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